

THE ISCI BULLETIN

FREEDOM INDEPENDENCE JUSTICE



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ISLAMIC SUPREME COUNCIL OF IRAQ

Friday, April 1, 2011 1

Sayed Alhakim: Executive And Legislative Authorities Must Meet Citizens' Demands

Sayed Alhakim Meets With PM Almaliki



Sayed Alhakim met on Wednesday, March 30, 2011, with Prime Minister Nuri Almaliki. During the meeting, they discussed the political developments in the region and the great challenges faced by the people of some Arab countries, and the latest developments in the Iraqi political scene. In a press conference after the meeting, the Prime Minister stressed that the principle of communication and ongoing cooperation is the nature of the relationship between us and our brothers in ISCI. This is an aide to state-building and supporting the political process for the success of this experience. He added "we discussed also the political developments experienced by the region and the great challenges which we live and we will have influence and are influenced by these events and challenges. We want ourselves to be influential in these events, and we discussed the issues of our country and the domestic situation and how to close the home front and bring about the implementation of all agreements and ideas that constitute support to the political process. We have agreed that we need to communicate on a permanent basis to ensure hard work and support and backing." Sayed Alhakim said that this meeting came about because of the need to discuss the concerns of the citizens and the suffering of the people of the province of Basra. This after the visit we made to this province, and we discussed also the national and regional situation, and a lot of developments through the ongoing

consultations. We will stand and support the government of Mr. Maliki and support the service of Citizens and in achieving the aspirations of the Iraqi street. He wished that these placed plans would be able to address these problems so as to secure Iraq and become a good example of conditions and the major developments taking place in Iraq and the region.

Developments In The Arab Region

There are political, security, cultural, service, and living factors behind the developments in the present Arab political scene which have contributed to a major escalation of demonstrations, protests and sit-ins.

These have gradually shifted to massive popular revolutions in many countries of the region and in some cases have resulted in the overthrow of the governing regimes. The past fifty years have witnessed a series of military coups led by officers, mostly adventurers to take over power, especially if we know that the layer of army officers at the time considered to be an educated class and able to facilitate change. This happened in Egypt, Syria, Sudan, Yemen, Libya, Iraq, and other countries in the region which had witnessed such coups. These uprisings gradually shifted to highly centralized authoritarian regimes that tightened their military grip and through the brute force of their security services. These forces went out against any calls for pluralism, democracy and freedom of opinion and expression. They crushed calls for civilian rule. These regimes exploited their nation's wealth and deprived their people of this grace.

As a result of the tyranny of these corrupt regimes and after nearly fifty years of being in power and after the scientific development...

-Continued on P. 6

VP Mahdi Meets With Head Of Aliraqiah List



VP Mahdi visited on Thursday, March 24, 2011, the head of Aliraqiah list. Dr. Iyad Allawi. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the situation in Iraq and the Arab region. The two sides exchanged views on the events at the political, security, and service level, and ways to support the democratic process and maintain the gains of the political process in Iraq. The two sides stressed the need to respond to the legitimate demands of citizens, especially the respect for the freedoms granted to them under the Constitution and to improve the situation of services, particularly in the field of electricity, health, education and the provision of the ration card items and to have them distributed on a regular basis, this in addition to the quest to find job opportunities for graduates and the unemployed. They also reviewed the rapid developments in the Arab region and the events in Libya, Yemen, and Bahrain. They emphasized the importance of respecting the will of the people and their freedom.

Sayed Alhakim Hosts Political-Cultural Forum

The concept that is well known today in the Arab world is the concept of reform, change, development, democracy and the peaceful transfer of power. The drafting of constitutions and fair elections, which gives

the Syrian and Arab affairs, and stressed his commitment to strengthen elements of brotherhood between the two brotherly peoples.

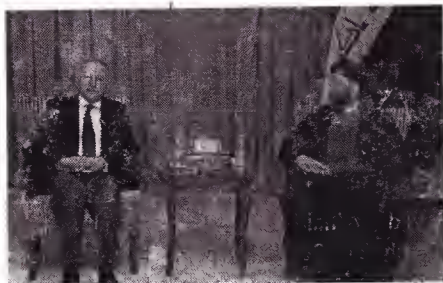
Sayed Alhakim Meets With Turkish PM



Sayed Alhakim met on Sunday, March 28, 2011, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Turkey's Prime Minister.

During the meeting, Sayed Alhakim welcomed the visit of the Turkish PM and his accompanying delegation to Iraq, and hoped this visit would strengthen the bonds of cooperation between the two neighboring countries at different levels. The two sides discussed also the regional political realities and political changes in the region.

Sayed Alhakim Receives Secretary General of OIC



Sayed Alhakim received on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, Dr. Ihsanoglu, the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, they discussed the overall situation in the region of Arab and Islamic countries and the general situation in Iraq.

In a press statement following the meeting, Dr. Ihsanoglu expressed his delight at meeting with Sayed Alhakim, and noted that there is great consensus in opinions and in the diagnosis of issues experienced by the Islamic nation in these historical

days. He stressed that the Islamic world is going through an important and historical period of transition involving some countries that lived outside the context of history to the historical context and the natural progression of the nations. Dr. Ihsanoglu expressed his hope that these transformations would be peaceful and take place through national dialogue without foreign interventions. These transitions should also promote stability and peace and progress without bloodshed. He confirmed that the Organization of Islamic Conference was and will always stand by the demands of peoples to achieve their goals and to express their legitimate freedoms and desires for a better life under the framework of human rights recognized internationally, and the cherished values of Islam.

Sayed Alhakim said, "I was honored to meet with Dr. Ihsanoglu, the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference and we were happy in the convergent vision that we talked about in the transformation of public policy that should achieve the will of the people and move towards greater freedom and social justice that emerges from democracy. We expressed our concern of what is happening in Turkey, Yemen, Bahrain and other areas that are experiencing some turbulence. He wished for the stability of these countries in their political, security situation and for economic recovery. Sayed Alhakim said that these steps will go towards achieving the will of the people and added "we have also discussed the Iraqi reality and the nature of national partnership experienced by the Iraqi project and the steps that are approved by Council of Representatives and the Iraqi government and the national political forces."

He also praised the idea of the Organization of Islamic Conference to hold a conference in Iraq to bridge the gap between Islamic schools and promote unity among Muslim nations, and he also thanked Dr. Ihsanoglu for the role he plays in strengthening ties between the Islamic peoples.

ISCI's Delegation Visits Japanese Embassy

A delegation representing Sayed Alhakim led by Mr. Reda Jawad Taqi, assistant president of ISCI on Public Relations on



Thursday, March 17, 2011, visited the Japanese Embassy in Baghdad. Mr. Taqi gave the Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Susumu Hasegawa, and a letter of condolence from Sayed Alhakim to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Japanese Prime Minister, expressing regret at the painful disaster that has befallen Japan. One which has claimed the lives of many people and caused massive losses in the service of the country. The Japanese Ambassador praised the role of Sayed Alhakim and thanked him for this generous initiative and wished for Iraq security, stability, and peace. This delegation included Mr. Haitham Husseini, the representative of the private office of Sayed Alhakim, and Mrs. Ahlam Husseini, the director of the political relations.

Sayed Alhakim Receives PM Almaliki



Sayed Alhakim received on Thursday, March 17, 2011, the Iraqi Prime Minister, Mr. Nuri Almaliki and a delegation of the Islamic Dawa Party. During the meeting, they discussed the most important issues in the national and regional arenas.

In a press statement, the two sides stressed the growing concern of the unrest that prevailed in the region, where Sayed Alhakim expressed serious concern about the conditions of Libya, Yemen and Bahrain, and the entry of military forces from outside the border into the territories of Bahrain and the targeting of citizens. He stressed the need to take appropriate action that contributes to resolving the

the people of Christian community, because they represent an essential component of the Iraqi people.

Sayed Alhakim Receives Iraqi Journalists Union Delegation



Sayed Alhakim received on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, a delegation from the Iraqi Journalists Union. At the outset of the meeting, the President and members of the delegation praised the leading role of Sayed Alhakim for his interest in national issues and his emphasis on the bonds of national unity between the sons of the Iraqi people and his endeavors to keep up with development taking place in the countries of the region and the world by launching a National Reform initiative.

They also discussed a law to Protect Iraqis Journalists which is currently under discussion by the members of the Iraqi parliament. They discussed semi-detailed understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of this law in order to develop it and turn it into a law for press freedoms, and comprehensive for all Iraqi journalist institutions and the Unions press and civil society organizations.

Sayed Alhakim Hosts Political-Cultural Forum

We are confident in the efforts of the Libyan people. These efforts will lead to the overthrow of the tyrant. The international community bears responsibility toward the defenseless Libyan people that have been targeted at the hands of Qaddafi and his forces. We express our solidarity and sympathy with young Libyan heroes and we would like to tell them that you are the makers of the hope in the Arab nations. We are looking forward for your persistence, integrity, altruism and sacrifices in order to achieve your aspirations and restore lost dignity.



The situation in Yemen is not any better than the situation in Libya and we have noticed that the Yemeni president does not like the idea that Yemeni people taking to the streets and to expressing their discontent and anger at what is happening. From frequent abuses in the management of the country and shunning the interests of the people by a corrupt ruling regime that has been governing this country for decades. This system still provides for a climate to declare a state of emergency in Yemen. This would allow for more opportunities to abuse the Yemeni people in spite of the wide resignations taking place in Yemen by Yemeni diplomats and security officials on a large scale. This is called the culture of clinging to power. We stand up with the legitimate rights of the people of Bahrain, as well as people of Tunisian, Egypt, Yemen, and other peoples. We stand up with all these people in their fight for freedom, progress and prosperity and the achievement of pride and dignity. We condemn the bullying and violence against citizens that denies them the opportunity to express their opinion within peaceful framework. We condemn the use of force by internal and external armies for the repression of peoples in all Arab countries. We make no differentiation between one country and another and between one people and another because the issue is one issue. We are surprised by those who look at the Bahraini issue in a different way. A way that is different from all other Arab countries and deal with Bahrain in a different way by condemning the armies that suppress the Libyan people and condemning

mercenaries hired by Gaddafi. But these same people defend the use of excessive force and the bringing in of armies of neighboring countries into Bahrain. They call the process of targeting citizens as necessary steps to achieve stability. It's a strange paradox and double standard, especially as the majority of the people of Bahrain and its political forces, are demanding legitimate demands. Amending the constitution and holding fair elections and the selecting of qualified government officials through the ballot box and the granting of freedoms and improve the living conditions. All of these are legitimate demands that are being demanded by the Bahraini people. They deserve attention. Not to be targeted and excluded. I hope that the Bahraini leadership would rectify what has happened and deal with things with wisdom and reflection. This helps to get things back to normal and proper context. ISCI's National initiative is still subjected to considerable efforts by specialized committees that were formed to activate them and so it can solve the problems of the country and contribute to a significant shift and a major shift in the service of citizens. This initiative requires all benevolent efforts of the members of the Council of Representatives. We need all of these efforts and elite people's contribution to go towards the activation of this national initiative. We find in this initiative a way to solve the country's problems in order to enhance confidence among the Iraqi people and the institutions and State officials. We followed with interest the accession of six armed groups to the political process and their renouncement of violence. This is an important step that refers to the level of success achieved in our country. We must express our will to embrace all Iraqis who wish to serve their people and homeland, Iraq must embrace all Iraqis, regardless of their political, national, religious, and sectarian backgrounds.

Sayed Alhakim Heads ISCI's Consultative Council

Sayed Alhakim headed on Monday, March 28, 2011, ISCI's consultative council. During the meeting, they discussed the regional and Arab issues, and shed light on the broad popular movement witnessed by many Arab countries and the suffering



VP Mahdi receives on Wednesday, March 23, 2011, President of the United Nations Mission in Iraq, Mr. Ad Melkert. During the meeting, they discussed developments in the Iraqi scene and the march of the political transformations taking place in the country, and the role to be played by the United Nations.

The United Nation will stand by the Iraqi people as they continue to consolidate the democratic experiment and the construction, reconstruction and development of Iraq.

The two sides also discussed the demonstrations and protests, which dominates many Arab countries, and hoped for the achievement of the legitimate demands of the peoples and to deal with the protesters in a civilized way that is away from all forms of violence and bloodshed.

VP Mahdi Receives UK Ambassador



VP Mahdi received on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, the UK ambassador, Mr. John Jenkins.

During the meeting, they discussed the bilateral relations and ways of developing them to serve the common interests of both countries. Moreover, the two sides reviewed the fast-moving events in the region and the movements of popular protest in the region.

With regard to what is happening in Bahrain the two sides stressed on the need to resort to dialogue and peaceful means in order to reach radical solutions to the legitimate demands of the protesters away from any form of violence and foreign intervention.

VP Mahdi Receives ICAC Delegation



VP Mahdi received on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, a delegation of the International Commercial Arbitration Centre in Najaf, led by Mr. Mohammad Jawad Turaihi. During the meeting, they discussed the tasks and responsibilities entrusted to the status of international arbitration in Najaf, where it addresses rapid development and puts forward appropriate solutions to conflicts between commercial contracts, investment projects and signed contracts in and outside Iraq.

VP Mahdi expressed the hope that this center contributes to the development of contracts and investment opportunities.

M. Of Transportation Meets With Sec. Of Arab League



Minister of Transportation Mr. Hadi Alamiri met on Thursday, March 31, 2011, with Secretary General of the League of Arab League, Mr. Amr Moussa. Mr. Amr Moussa discussed with Mr. Alamiri ways of activating the Arab joint projects in transportation and railway, as well as the arrangements carried out by Baghdad to prepare for the scheduled twenty-third session of Arab summit in May. Mr. Moussa said in a joint news conference with the Minister of Transportation:

The talks dealt with ways of activating the Arab Bridge Company for Navigation,

which includes Iraq, Egypt and Jordan as one of the Arab economic integration projects in the field of transportation. He added that his talks with the Iraqi minister also addressed the changes taking place in the Arab world and the popular revolts witnessed by the Arab countries. They also discussed arrangements for the coming Arab summit in Baghdad, and coordination on projects of joint action and Arab economic integration.

Mr. Alamiri said that this visit was his first to Egypt after taking over office, and it came under the interest of Iraq "to deepen its partnership with Egypt and Jordan in the field of transportation, hence it was necessary to discuss these matters with the Secretary-General of the Arab League." In regard the preparations for the Arab summit in Baghdad, Mr. Alamiri expressed his strong hope to hold it on time, and explained that the Arab nation "is now in urgent need for this summit to convene."

Internal Developments In Iraq



Iraqi people still live a state of anticipation of the steps adopted by the executive and legislative authorities to meet their legitimate demands; especially in the provision of services and the elimination of unemployment, improvement of the ration card system and the elimination of administrative and financial corruption. Corruption has been eating away at the body of the state until it reached the Iraqi judiciary, which was supposed to be a bulwark against this disease, but we hear daily information about the use of bribery in the courts so as the criminal becomes innocent and the innocent becomes criminal. The circle of injustice is continuously



equal opportunity for all citizens to express their opinions and to choose who manages their affairs; all these concepts that are now circulating in our Arab surroundings. We have witnessed them here in Iraq for eight years and now we are working on amending the constitution and the holding of elections and the propagation of freedoms. Iraq is today moving at a steady pace and the Arab world is advancing its legitimate national reform. Reform which has achieved an important position and the road to that change is a long one that we have to travel down to achieve the aspirations of the Iraqi people of pride, dignity, freedom and appropriate living conditions. That such a situation holds the Iraqi people, the elite and its political forces should be held accountable for this great responsibility. They must invest in this circumstance and the enormous opportunities available so as to turn Iraq into a focal point and to take the lead in the Arab scene and include Arab countries in a system that depends on the basis of the Arab and Islamic values. It relies on the foundation of freedom, pride and dignity, tolerance and coexistence in the construction of these communities and serves these precious people to achieve their ambitions.

The situation is still inflamed in Libya and every day people fall victims because of the tyrant that clings to power. Gaddafi and his group are the tyrants. We find the enthusiasm and motivation and willingness to sacrifice the sons of the Libyan people and their desire to give everything to change the reality that they suffered long for more than four decades in the Arab country a just and noble cause. We express again our solidarity and standing with the brotherly Libyan people in their distress and revolution and we wish them victory in achieving their aspirations in forming a just government so as to achieve decent conditions of freedom, justice and political reforms required and proper living conditions.

In light of the London Conference which

was held in support of the Libyan people, we must recall the importance that the international community bears the full responsibility in the preservation of the souls of innocent people in Libya. That the use of force and weapons used strike military machine of Gaddafi does not justify in any way the falling of a number of innocent civilian as victims of this processes.

We thank all the Arab and Muslim and international regimes that stood with the Libyan people and teamed up with it and recognized the Transitional Council, which represents the public interface of this revolution and we express our surprise not to recognize the transitional council by Iraqi government. The situation in Yemen is witnessing important developments and the public awareness of Youth, which is found today in Yemen. They are taking to the street by tribes and clans. The Yemeni public the public wants the Yemeni President to reconsider his accounts and give the opportunity to regain the Yemeni people the initiative to form a government that reflects the aspirations of the Yemeni people. The Yemeni president should be aware of this message of the Yemeni people before it is too late and take the correct procedure and to prevent further bloodshed of innocent people of Yemen and give the opportunity to the people to run its affairs in the next phase. That the developments in Syria and Jordan deserve attention and follow-up to meet the demands of the people who demand a legitimate reforms in the living which makes the leadership in these countries to take their responsibilities to speed in meeting these needs and to listen to their people and solve problems and bring the situation into its correct context and to achieve more stability in the Arab world in these countries.

The situation in Bahrain is still the same and we have stated repeatedly that the military machine, and pressure and abuse of citizens cannot provide a solution to a problem in Bahrain. That the solution lies in the peaceful dialogue based on fair and objective principles accepted by the Bahraini people and adapting the conditions of stability for this noble country. Especially when the majority of the Bahraini people have raised slogans and demands that were acknowledged by everyone.

There should be a constructive dialogue

puts things in their perspective. The establishment of the distinction between citizens in Bahrain and charging all those who demand political reforms with a breach in the national directions is a serious approach that would have negative repercussions on the desired processor in resolving the current crisis in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The withdrawal of the nomination of our brother Dr. Adel Abdul Mahdi, came to affirm our vision in ISCI that the positions of responsibility in the state, as we see it, are that these sites are tools to serve people and not for access to benefits, privileges and opportunities for this person or that. The motivation of the members of ISCI to take responsibility over certain posts and positions is linked to their evaluation of the level of the possibility of providing service through these sites. Thus if we found that there is a chance to serve the people then ISCI's people will seek these sites. We must emphasize that the withdrawal of the nomination of Dr. Adel Abdul-Mahdi does not mean a decline in our commitment to support this government as long as it is going in the way of providing services to the citizens.

Sayed Alhakim Contacts Syrian President



Sayed Alhakim made on Thursday, March 31, 2011, telephone conversation with Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad. Sayed Alhakim expressed his keenness on stability and security in Syria and meeting the legitimate demands of the Syrian people. Sayed Alhakim hoped that the political reforms that have been taken recently by President would be an element that encouraged the aspirations of the Syrian people and strengthened national unity in the country. The survival of Syria is a crucial element in the Arab and regional system.

The Syrian President thanked Sayed Alhakim for his outreach and interest in

crisis through dialogue and realistic consideration to the demands of the Bahraini people. Sayed Alhakim stressed also on the need to strengthen cohesion among the Iraqi political forces, and to take serious steps that contribute to solving problem related to the provision of services for Iraqi citizens and meet their demands and aspirations. He pointed out to the support of ISCI to the government and the Council of Representatives for any steps taken in this context. The Prime Minister expressed growing concern over foreign interference in the affairs of Bahrain, where some sectarian tribes rally against the other sect. He pointed out the seriousness of the Bahraini issue, and stressed that this issue is shifting from an internal affair to the broadest scope in the region. He also called on the international community and the Organization of Islamic Conference to take a positive role in resolving the crisis peacefully away from the framework of the armed confrontation.

He called on Arab States to more rational and to realize the gravity of the crisis, and stressed that the demonstrations and the expression of opinion and demands is a legitimate right for any nations. The Prime Minister praised the historical relationship between the ISCI and Dawa party, and the gear that drives the process to build the state and embrace the political process; He also stressed that the meeting comes within the framework of the strategic understanding between the two sides.

Sayed Alhakim Receives Minister Of Finance



Sayed Alhakim received on Thursday, March 31, 2011, Minister of Finance Dr. Rafie Alissawi. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments and political developments on both the Iraqi and Arab arenas, and the emphasis on closing ranks within the political process and activate the agreements signed between

the political blocs, and the steps necessary for the advancement of the work of the ministry.

Sayed Alhakim Hosts Political-Cultural Forum



Sayed Alhakim hosted on Wednesday, March 16, 2011, the political-cultural forum. In his political speech, Sayed Alhakim condemned the atrocities and massacres experienced by some of the Arab peoples at the hands of the ruling authorities.

He noted that the brutal and barbaric means pursued by the Libyan regime by killing protesters and pro-freedom demonstrators were a terrible atrocity. He stressed that there be recognition of the Transitional Council of Libya by the Arab League and some Western countries. This would be a key step in supporting the Libyan people and the moving towards the achievement of their right to democracy, freedom, dignity, and social well-being.

He emphasized that the Arab citizens are looking for social justice, and have paid a huge price in order to reach and achieve this ambition while we noted the deaths of many of the victims.

In another aspect of his political speech, he emphasized that the constructive dialogue and the understanding of the aspirations of the Bahraini people and the holding of political reforms is a sign of good faith. It shows what can be done by the Bahraini government to avoid every tense situation in the country, and added that bringing in troops from outside of Bahrain may encourage the introduction of other foreign forces and that may result in motivating the protesters to develop their demands in the provision of services to political conflicts reflect negatively on the entire region.

In regard the domestic affairs, he stressed that the marches and demonstrations and protests by the people of Iraq have achieved some good result by listening

to the suffering of the citizens and determining the timeframe to assess the work of officials.

He also stressed on achieving the demands of the Iraqi people by filling the ministerial vacancies and the taking of urgent steps by officials. He confirmed that the circumstance in which we live today requires increased cooperation of political forces participating in the government to strengthen partnership and devoting enormous potential to serve the citizens. He also talked about the issue of Kirkuk and said "Kirkuk is one of the core sensitive issues and it should be noted that Kirkuk is a city that is an Iraqi city. One that has its own privacy under the Iraqi national tent and the coexistence of people of different nationalities and religious background and this city represents Iraq in miniature and the Iraqi mosaic over its long history. Therefore, we emphasize on the importance of dialogue between the parties to calm the situation and solve problems on the basis of abiding by the constitution and law and agreements between the political parties." He also expressed his solidarity with the Japanese people in this humanitarian disaster and wished safety and stability for all peoples of the world.

Sayed Alhakim Receives Cardinal Delly



Sayed Alhakim received on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, his Holiness Cardinal Emmanuel III Delly, the head of the Chaldean Catholic Church in Iraq and the world.

During the meeting, they discussed the general situation in the country, and how to ensure the rights of religious minorities in Iraq.

Cardinal Delly praised the national positions of Sayed Alhakim and his standing with the legitimate rights of all Iraqi factions. Sayed Alhakim stressed on the need to pay attention to religious minorities, especially



of the Arab people and the violations of human rights, and the demands of citizens. They have called for freedom, dignity and the peaceful transfer of power in these countries.

The meeting also addressed the National Reform initiative and how to adopt it and work out the details. In another aspect of the meeting, they discussed the reality of ISCI and the necessary steps in the movement of development and activities taking place in the Council of Representatives and the Iraqi government.

Developments In The Arab Region

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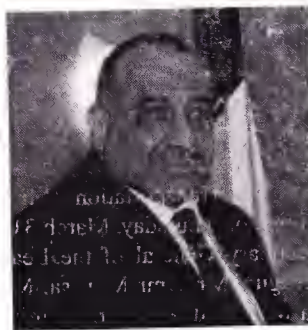
...and communications revolution, the political landscape has witnessed the emergence of popular demonstrations and peaceful protests in order to stop the deterioration of the region. After World War I, the Arab region witnessed the emergence of absolute monarchy regimes. These were not less dangerous than the political scene of the regimes of military coups, because these monarchies turned out to be totalitarian regimes that were not controlled by the national constitution and that constitution during the monarchy era was geared to serve the ruling class, with the transmission of power between the sons of royal families. Also some countries ruled by dictatorships and absolute monarchies, they were exposed to the ghost of partitioning their countries if these regimes do not meet with the wishes of the masses. A good example is what happened recently in Sudan. The international community will not stand for long on such crimes committed by the dictatorial regimes in the Arab region.

In Libya, the Libyan youth is driving for the required change process to put an end to authoritarian rule and the dictatorship of the tyrant, Muammar Gaddafi, who has been in power for more than four decades.

We believe that the tyrant will fall just like other tyrants throughout history and those who do look only to themselves and their interests and their seats, privileges and risk the lives of citizens and threaten security and stability.

In Yemen, the stand with the protests and the peaceful and civilized demonstrations and the claim of legitimate rights that had escalated dramatically until the security forces in Yemen made use of tear gas; then the government declared a state of emergency to generate opportunities to target claimants who are demanding dignity, freedom, pluralism, free elections and political reforms. The Yemeni president has begrudged his people to take on to the arenas and to express their discontent and anger at what is going on from abuses in the administration of the country and the denial of the interests of the people by this corrupt regime for three decades of tyranny. In Bahrain, ISCI stands with the legitimate rights of the people of Bahrain as with the legitimate rights of the people of Tunisia, Egyptian, Yemen, and Libyan and other peoples who struggle for their rights. ISCI denounces the oppression of citizens by regimes that deny them the opportunity to express their opinion within the framework of peaceful protests and the use of force and internal and external armies for the repression of peoples in all Arab countries that witness such conditions.

VP Mahdi Congratulates Father AlRaei



VP Mahdi sent on Thursday, March 17, 2011, a telegram of congratulation to the Father Bishara AlRaei on the occasion of his accession of duties of The Maronite Antioch Church. The following is the text:

His Holiness Father Bishara

Patriarch of Maronite Antioch Church

It's my pleasure to extend my congratulations and blessing on the occasion of your election as Patriarch of the Maronite Antioch Church. Your election for such an important position indicates your ability to face and overcome difficulties and your high dedication in the management of your people and spread the message of love and peace which was emphasized by the prophets and apostles. On this occasion, I want to express to you our unrelenting commitment in Iraq to build stronger relations with all countries of the region, particularly Lebanon.

With My Highest Consideration,

Adel Abdul Mahdi

Vice President of the Republic of Iraq
Baghdad on the Sixteenth of March, 2011

VP Mahdi Receives U.S. Ambassador



VP Mahdi received on Wednesday, March 23, 2011, U.S. ambassador, Mr. James Jeffrey. During the meeting, they discussed the bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them to serve the interests of both countries, and stressed on the need to adhere to the agreements concluded between the two sides in all areas. The two sides reviewed the latest developments in the Iraqi arena and the democratic transformations in the country, and confirmed the need to move forward in the process of reconstruction and economic development. They also reviewed the rapid developments in many Arab countries and the wave of demonstrations and protests that have beset many of the regimes in the region, and stressed the need to reinforce the path of peaceful democratic transition of power away from all forms of violence, tyranny and despotism.

VP Mahdi Receives President of UNAMI

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Friday, April 1, 2011 8

broadened day after day. We believe that the State should develop strategic plans to combat corruption in the highest echelons of power to the lowest and reveal the names of those involved. The deterioration of the State the corruption has caused is a severe burden for citizens. We call for legislation that enables the State to be able to build efficient and high administrative institutions. Institutions that are forever rid of the heavy legacy of the deposed regime, and that this deterioration and decline in performance can be addressed through the following:

1-The abolition of the legislations of the former regime:

The Iraqi Council of Representatives has hundreds of drafts of laws that have not been passed so far, and there is pile of legislation passed by former regime since the early seventies until 2003, numbering according to the accurate sources to more than 9,400. The new Iraqi state still works in accordance with these laws, despite being incompatible with the essence and spirit of the new Iraqi constitution.

We call on the CoR to form multiple committees and through the use of experts to dismantle this vast amount of legislation passed by the previous regime, for the benefit of the dictator to meet the requirements of his desires and his crimes against Iraqi people in particular and the peoples of the region in general.

2-Activating the National Reform Initiative:

The initiative put forward by ISCI did not come from a vacuum, but came to reform the state institutions and the Iraqi authorities because of a serious loss of confidence between the citizen and the officials.

We believe that making use of the lack of allocations by some officials as excuses, or the inefficiency of personnel working in state institutions is not accurate. Iraq is a rich country with its wealth and its abilities to build civilized, advanced, and manage state institutions. Institutions that have the most qualified person in the right place, away from the cronyism and clientelism, sectarianism and regionalism. What is required from all partners in this country is that politicians, civil society organizations, political parties, blocs and

entities, consider this initiative as a national road map for the public interest. Not on the basis of competition between partners. This initiative included many points, as it confirmed its ability to identify the instructions and procedures that facilitate the process of public control and control of the media to the problem of administrative and financial corruption that flourishes in all aspects of the state, and has become a quagmire for blackmailing citizens.

3-The return of misled armed groups to the national front:

After the fall of the previous regime on the ninth of April 2003, the Iraqi people went through many internal and external seditions and plots that almost provoked a bloody civil war between the sons of one people on sectarian, national, and regional basis.

During these days we heard that some misled groups laid down their arms and returned to the national front and to the political process. We believe that this step is very important and refers to the degree of success achieved in Iraq. But we express frankly that we embrace all Iraqis who wish to serve their people and homeland, except people who were involved in the killing of the Iraqi citizens, considering that Iraq is for all Iraqis except the criminals of al-Qaeda and the remnants of the former regime.

4-Addressing the negative phenomena:

There is no doubt that there are problems in the performance of some official circles which led to a loss of confidence between the citizens and officials working in these departments, of these negatives phenomena:

A-Governmental Missions:

Unfortunately, most of the governmental missions, especially outside Iraq, were not controlled by laws or standards or disciplines and turned from National work to rest and recreation for those who are close to the official or those from his party or bloc at the expense of talented specialists who are in dire need to develop their capabilities and specialties to use them in building the institutions of the modern state.

This bad phenomenon needs to be addressed through the development of

proper standards in the selection and the State's need, particularly with regard to the dispatching specialists to benefit from international experiences and employ them in the Departments of Iraqi institutions to service the building of the state and not for the interest of the individual as is happening now.

B-Lack of codification of the salary scale:

This is not happening in any country in the third world. There is significant disparity in the salaries of staff of officials in Iraqi departments. The form of inequality is a cause of injustice in a democratic country which may cause a subsequent decline in the level of required enthusiasm, which affects the public service and national production.

C-Dismissed politicians: After the fall of the previous regime, a prisoners institution was formed to deal with the affairs of the dismissed politicians and restore their rights under simplified terms, but they were surprised by the subsequent elaboration of new conditions affecting directly on a wide range of them, and that this problem still persists where political prisoners feel the unfairness. Such decisions will generate a real crisis for an important and influential segment that has suffered much at the time of the former regime and suffers today under the new regime.

D-Retirement Act: ISCI urged the CoR and the Iraqi government to speed up the enactment of service and retirement for those who sacrificed themselves to achieve security and stability for our people. It does not make any sense to keep their families and orphans without legislation and laws that protect them and provide them with opportunities for a decent life.

Speeding up the enactment of this law will give a clear message of gratitude and appreciation for the sacrifices of the Iraqi citizens and give them the required attention.

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